which was traditionally done by the CPWD for all Government Departments be gradually privatised and outsourced; and

(b) if so, the details of this recommendation and its implications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir. The Nitin Gadkari Committee constituted by the Ministry of UD has submitted its interim report which includes a recommendation for liberalization of the rules which make it mandatory for all Government departments to exclusively utilize CPWD for their construction works. Although the interim report has been accepted, in principle, its details are yet to be finalized.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Revised FDI guidelines for Urban Development

2646. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revise guidelines for Foreign Direct Investment norms in regard to urban development;

(b) if so, whether Government are also urging State Governments for repealing the Urban Land Ceiling Act;

(c) whether Government and States have also resolved to bring down stamp duties and registration fees from 15 per cent to 5 per cent in an effort to introduce reforms in the sector; and

(d) if so, to what extent the revising of norms have helped to attract more FDI in Urban Development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) State Governments have been requested to adopt the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Repeal Act, 1999.

Urban Reforms Incentive Fund (URIF) has been set up to provide reform linked assistance to States *inter-alia* in the following areas:

(i) Repeal of the Urban Land Ceiling & Regulation Act at the State level by Resolution; and

(ii) Rationalisation of Stamp Duty

(d) Does not arise.

Scales in the cadre of Executive Engineers, CPWD

2647. SHRI R. S. GAVAI:
SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in CPWD only two scales exist in the cadre of Executive Engineer;

(b) if so, the number of posts earmarked in the pay scale of Rs. 12000—16500 in the grade of Executive Engineer, CPWD (Civil and Electrical Wing), separately;

(c) the number of Executive Engineer (Civil and Electrical) working in the pay scale of Rs. 12000—16500 in CPWD;

(d) the reason for not filling all the posts earmarked in the scale of Rs. 12000—16500; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to fill up all the posts of Executive Engineer in the grade of Rs. 12000-16500?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of posts of Executive Engineers, both Civil as well as Electrical, to be operated in the non-functional pay scale of Rs. 12000—16500 is to be restricted to 30% of the senior duty posts in the respective cadres.

(c) Executive Engineer (Civil) - 38

Executive Engineer (Electrical) - 16